

SPECIAL Sandy Hook News and Survey July 2007

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We have room for more!

Why this Special Issue? See the special extra page where your Association is conducting an important survey to solicit YOUR opinions on an important subject. We need your input to shape our ongoing plans for wonderful Sandy Hook. Yes, there is even a self addressed stamped envelope to make it easy for you (we spare no expense!) so don't let it be wasted by forgetting to take a few minutes and do the survey. Then pop the whole sheet in the mail or into the Tot Park drop box. **Thank you.** **Quick Link to the Survey:** <http://sechelt.net/Sandy/2007surveyform.html>

And here's a bit of news too:

- The AGM was well attended. Special thanks to the speaker Elizabeth McNeil and to the workers with the goodies, Fran and Mark Wilson, plus everyone else who helped out.
- Remember you can view minutes of the AGM and the latest board meetings on line at www.sechelt.net
- There are now regular meetings of your Association with the Mayor and Council on many subjects plus meetings with representatives of CAL regarding gravel pit activity. Your concerns are brought forward.



Concerns about the Watershed

All of the **drinking water** for over 23,000 residents on the Sunshine Coast comes from primarily the Chapman Creek and Grey Creek (only on occasion) and that includes Sandy Hook. Unfortunately there does not appear to be proper laws to protect the water sources from damage. As we write this the well advertised CNI development is logging in the Chapman and seems to have no plans to stop short of really clear cutting it all. In addition, Western Forest Products are pushing a road though to cross the Chapman and then log out the other side. It appears that our watershed will end up just a poor stream coursing through a barren clear cut.

The Regional Health Officer, Dr. Paul Mariquet, said at a recent meeting (best try at quote), "Sechelt has beautiful, pure, polished water thanks to the pristine wilderness of the watershed and the concerted and foreseeing efforts of the SCR D. You must fight to protect it." Your Association is not directly involved in the watershed issue as we have no such mandate from the general membership but many of your directors are attending meetings and attempting to assist those trying to protect your water.

If you wish to help out, we ask you, on an urgent basis, to contact your SCR D representative and ask him or her to take all measures necessary to protect the public drinking watershed, up to and including an order to cease and desist activities in the watershed that are clearly a health hazard to the public's water supply. Also thank the SCR D for their good efforts to date. On June 29th it was announced that the SCR D is moving to act as a "local board of health" and force a stop to the logging. Further, they are moving to set up a \$1 million fund to fight for protection through the courts if needed.

The District of Sechelt rep is Councillor Ed Steeves, Phone: 604-885-7501 or email ehsteeves@telus.net or write him at the District Office, District of Sechelt, 2nd Floor 5797 Cowrie St., PO Box 129, Sechelt BC V0N 3A0. Even a short note will send a message.



Plans are afoot to hold the **picnic** at Sandy Hook Park again this year. A committee is working and your Association has committed to support the venture as we have in the past.

The date is expected to be sometime in August this year (maybe summer will be here by then!). We are assured that the bulletin boards will be well decorated to proclaim this momentous event's special day.

Watch for the posters.



Directors?

There is still room for another couple of board members. How about you! It is fun and not too demanding. Call or email us to attend a sample board meeting.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER



REMEMBER TO COMPLETE AND MAIL IN THE SURVEY THAT IS WITH THIS NEWSLETTER.

Sechelt Keeps Growing



We are trying to keep on top of all the developments proposed for around here

and are making submissions to the District as needed. The submissions include saying what all our concerns might be if a project goes ahead such as: road congestion, parks, sewage, compatible uses and so on. If we have something nice to say we say that too! Here is a partial list of the proposals we are keeping an eye on just on this side of the Inlet:

- *SilverBack*—the proposal for a golf resort with 1600 homes including a commercial centre and some ‘high rise’ condo units. From the Provincial Park to Sandy Hook.
- *Publico*—between Sandy Hook and Tuwanek with about 65 homes on the upper side of the road.
- *Eden Properties*—a high end home development high above Tuwanek

- but visible from many homes here.
- *Gow Pit*—in East Porpoise Bay for about 16 homes
- *Yew Avenue*—in East Porpoise Bay—another 16 homes.
- *Bob Road*—a roughly 4 acre property above Sechelt Inlet Road just before the Deerhorn turnoff. Still in approval and planning but looks like just 4 lots will be built upon.

Your board either receives a ‘referral’ from the District warning us of these new projects or often we are lucky and are tipped off by someone (often another community association). We then scramble to have a meeting and prepare our comments within the 30 day deadline prescribed. We are fortunate to have some members who are up to speed on the rules and the guidelines for developments and they help us make some sort of intelligent submission. On occasion we have met with the developers or the District Planning staff. If you have comments or thoughts on any developments please let us know. **We need community input.**

A few other things:

- **Road Safety Note**—We have been asked to remind everyone to come to a full stop entering Sandy Hook Road from Deerhorn. There have been some very close calls as it is tough to see to the left and some drivers turning off onto Deerhorn cut the corner pretty sharp. We don’t want someone hurt.
- **Old Boats?** - if you have left a boat down at the boat launch and forgotten about it, please refresh your mind and move it or make it clear that it is still in use. There will be a cleanup of the area this summer and derelicts will have to be towed away.
- **Seaview and SH Road**—we have been following up on the ‘flood’ conditions at this intersection. Apparently it is a shared thing between the District of Sechelt and the SCR D (new water pipes) and they are trying to work out who should fix what. We hope they come to terms before the road collapses.
- **Grass in ditches**—by the time this newsletter reaches you the ditches should be cleared of grass if the District does as it has told us. We have been chasing them on this. (Deerhorn is supposed to be repaved too)

Some Trivia to fill in this empty space:

- ☺ Many years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled "Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden"...and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.
- ☺ It is impossible to lick your elbow.
- ☺ Most boat owners name their boats so what is the most popular boat name requested? "Obsession"
- ☺ In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase..... "Goodnight, sleep tight."

Sechelt Heritage Forest



Your team of volunteers has been meeting on Saturday mornings throughout the year keeping the trails clear.

SHCA President Harvey has planted the first of the signs designating the Gertrude Pacific Trail. It is at the Forest Road entrance (up top off Mt. Richardson). Another similar sized sign is planned for the Sechelt Inlet Road entrance and then smaller signs as post marks throughout the forest. Thanks, Peter.

Heritage Forest

While the status of this wonderful place is still sort of in limbo your SHCA committee works on. Those Saturday morning gatherings for the SHF have included many to work on this gem.



Trails have been kept clear all year and one very important new trail is in. It is a bit tricky to find with no sign yet but when you are about half way into the Grove there is a skinny tree bent over the path. Just past it on the left is the trail which leads to the viewpoint above the Grove. See all the way to Vancouver Island!. You can return the same route or follow over the top and down into the Grove on the ‘traditional’ trail.

Enjoy!

On the Move

We are losing some long-long time Sandyhookers: Former SHCA president Tor Svanoe is moving from his home on Coracle Drive to a new condo in Davis Bay. We wish Tor and his wife Sidsel a happy move and hope they stay in touch.

Don't forget to send in the Survey